

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

May 21st, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 am Services

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Introduction for the Day: In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

Our Brass and Percussion instrumentalists today are: Robert Hughes, Steve Winters, Nick White, Dave Mikec, Abigail Hughes, Connor Schmidt, and Brian Smith.

Gathering

With Brass and Bell and Voice and Pipe we celebrate God's gift of music and the Holy Spirit that works through Composers, Arrangers, Editors, Singers, Ringers, and all musicians to glorify God the creator of all. Enjoy the celebration of God's glorious gift of music as the choirs of St. Matthew's share some special music through worship.

Prelude

Folk Tune by Percy Whitlock [1903-1946]

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Ann Williams

Call to Worship

Come, let us sing and ring for joy to the Lord;

Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before him with thanksgiving

and extol him with music and song.

Call to Worship

When In Our Music God Is Glorified by Larry Visser
Bells Angels and Percussion

The five sections of this arrangement musically correspond with images from the hymn text

“When in Our Music God Is Glorified” by Fred Pratt Green (1903–2000).

Following an exuberant fanfare-like introduction, the first section is in full harmony, reflecting “the whole creation crying: Alleluia!”

1. When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!

The “new dimension in the world of sound” in the second stanza is portrayed through a contrasting and flowing eighth-note texture for handbells alone.

2. How oft, in making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!

The dissonance and unexpected harmonies played by the organ in the third section express “the Church...in faith and love, [enduring] centuries of wrong.”

3. So has the Church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, borne witness to the truth in ev’ry tongue, Alleluia!

Set in minor, the ethereal fourth section introduces the hymn text “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross,” portraying the agony “when utmost evil strove against the light.” The ensuing interlude weaves its way into reflecting the text “Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight.”

4. And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!

The joyous final displays the hymn melody rung by the topmost handbells over a pulsating rhythmic accompaniment, with broad chords and a recurrence of the “Alleluia!” theme played by the organ. Combined, these depict “every instrument [being] tuned for praise” and the rejoicing of “all who have a voice to raise!”

5. Let ev’ry instrument be tuned for praise, let all rejoice who have a voice to raise, and may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

When we were baptized, we died and were buried with Christ.

We were baptized so that we might have a new life, as Christ was raised to life by the glory of God the Father.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence for meditation and self-examination)

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do, so that we may receive and share the precious peace our Lord has promised.

It is written that the Messiah had to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins must be proclaimed in his name. I therefore declare unto you that your sins are forgiven.

Alleluia! Amen.

Gathering Song

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

1. A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
 2. The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
 3. To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
 4. "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the por - tals of the
 5. O ris - sen Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -

ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
 stand, and with his faith - ful fol - l'wers
 sky?" "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they
 sky." "Here af - ter Je - sus you shall
 cord: You are, while end - less ag - es

trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.
 say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!"
 see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."
 run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Litany for the 7th Sunday of Easter & Apostolic Greeting

The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed!

In the beginning God was.

At the right time, God sent the Son into the world to redeem us.

When the hour had come, the Son of Man was glorified.

The Lord was lifted up on the cross.

Before the disciples' eyes, the Lord ascended.

In the fullness of time God brings all things together.

The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be
with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand.

Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may
be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading

John 17:1-11

*On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who
continue his work in this world will live in unity.*

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Nocturne by Karen Buckwalter – Bells Angels

Please stand as you are able.

Second Reading (Preaching Text)

Acts 1:6-14

*Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on
Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his
ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Ann Williams

Please remain seated.

Hymn of the Day

O Love of God, How Strong and True

arr. by Michael McCarthy – Senior Choir & Congregation

1. *O love of God, how strong and true! Eternal, and yet ever new; uncomprehended and unbought, beyond all knowledge and all thought. O love of God, how deep and great! Far deeper than man's deepest hate; self-fed, self-kindled, like the light, changeless, eternal, infinite.*
2. *O heavenly love, how precious still, in days of weariness and ill, in nights of pain and helplessness, to heal, to comfort, and to bless! O wide embracing, wondrous love! We read thee in the sky above, we read thee in the earth below, in seas that swell, and streams that flow.*
3. *We read you best in Him who came to bear for us the cross of shame; sent by the Father from on high, our life to live, our death to die. We read your power to bless and save, e'en in the darkness of the grave; still more in resurrection light, we read the fullness of thy might.*

Please stand as you are able for the final stanza.

The Congregation is asked to join in singing stanza 4.

4. O love of God, our shield and stay through all the perils of our way! E - ter - nal love, in you we rest for - ev - er safe, for - ev - er blest. We will ex - alt you, God and King, and we will ev - er praise your name; we will ex - tol you ev' - ry day, and ev - er - more your praise pro - claim.

Text: Horatius Bonar [1858] alt. Music: C. Hubert H. Parry [1848-1918]. This arrangement by Michael McCarthy.

Tune: Jerusalem, LMD. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603.

Prayers of Intercession

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

...Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Meal

Musical Offering

Te Deum by Robert Hobby,
Senior Choir, Brass, and Percussion

"Te Deum" is an early Christian hymn of praise. Some scholars have suggested that the hymn is the merger of two earlier hymns: one to God the Father and another to God the Son. The hymn remains in regular use by the Catholic Church and the Anglican Book of Common Prayer and is retained by many other churches including the Lutheran and Reformed traditions.

The hymn follows the outline of the Apostles' Creed, mixing a poetic vision of the heavenly liturgy with its declaration of faith. Naming God immediately, the hymn proceeds to name all those who praise and venerate God, from the hierarchy of heavenly creatures to those Christian faithful already in heaven to the Church spread throughout the world. The hymn then returns to its creedal formula, naming Christ and recalling his birth, suffering, and glorification. At this point the hymn turns to the subjects declaiming the praise, both the Church in general and the singer in particular, asking for mercy on past sins, protection from future sin, and the hoped-for reunification with the elect.

You are God; we praise you.

You are the Lord; we acclaim you.

You are the eternal Father; all creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,

cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:

Father, of majesty unbounded;

your true and only Son, worthy of all worship;

and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free, you did not spurn the virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory. We believe that you will come and be our judge.

Come, then, Lord, and help your people,

bought with the price of your own blood,

and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting. -4th Century

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Prayer

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

We who are hungry, we who are thirsty, we come.

Please be seated.

Call to Communion

**#486 God Extends an Invitation/
*Nuestro Padre nos Invita***

Communion Anthem

I Come with Joy [ELW 482] – Senior Choir

Communion Hymn

#484 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Please stand as you are able.

Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Although you have ascended to the Father, you are with us here, O Christ. In trial and in triumph, guide us always to remember you still abide with your people. You are the Lord forevermore.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing for Retirement of Dave Mohr

Scripture tells us that endings are only new beginnings. Today Dave Mohr is retiring as our Senior Choir Director. Therefore, it is a time to mark the ending of his ministry here at Saint Matthew's Church; a time to look back, and a time to look forward. Eternal God:

We thank you for Dave and for our life together in this community. You have led him by the Holy Spirit to serve your people in this place, to build up your Church, and to glorify your name.

Dave, as you witness faithfully in word and deed to the compassion, love, and salvation that is known to us,

let us strive for righteousness, godliness, faithfulness, love, and gentleness among all peoples.

Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servant Dave Mohr, who has enriched this community and brought gladness to friends and family. Now bless and preserve him and his family at this time of transition. Day by day, guide him and give him what is needed. May your Holy Spirit be present in his life, that he may travel with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

And may you always know God's peace and love.

Let the whole church proclaim:

Amen!

Blessing

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

Amen!

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Symphony No. 5: Toccata – Ch. M. Widor [1844-1937]

arr. Richard Proulx – Brass and Percussion

***Music** is an endowment and a gift of God. It drives away the devil and makes people cheerful; one forgets all anger, unchasteness, pride, and other vices. I place music next to theology and give it the highest praise. And we see how David and all saints put their pious thoughts into verse, rhyme, and songs, because music reigns in time of peace. – Martin Luther*

FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39.

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Tracks 1 and 2
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